

Partners, Allies and Friends,

July 3, 2025

With the recent passage of H.R 1, also known as "The Big Beautiful Bill", many are wondering what will come next. We recognize the deep feelings of uncertainty and concern this moment brings to our communities. These changes bring real and pressing challenges, especially for those already navigating limited access to care. We want to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to advocating for the health and well-being of all Missourians, regardless of background, zip code, or income.

Since our founding as an organization, we have asked a critical question: *What does true access to care look like for those who are most vulnerable?* Community voices have answered with clarity: access must be shaped by lived experience, led by those closest to the challenges, and supported with resources and respect. That call is even more urgent today.

Now more than ever, our shared mission to achieve zero health disparities is essential. We view this as a pivotal moment to advance solutions *with* and for our communities. When systems fall short, people rise-up—with creativity, compassion, and collaboration. As the Commission Health Commission of Missouri (CHCM), we remain steadfast in our commitment to working side by side with you to adapt, advocate, and ensure that no one is left behind. Whether through resource coordination, advocacy at the Capitol, community-based outreach, or continued policy engagement, we believe our communities are ready to face this moment with unity and resolve.

Thank you for being a trusted ally and partner in this work. CHCM will remain at your side, working every step of the way to turn this moment into a catalyst for lasting communitydriven impact. In the future, we will continue to offer opportunities for you to stay informed and involved as we navigate the path forward—together.

With gratitude and solidarity,

**Riisa Rawlins** 

CEO, Community Health Commission of Missouri